

Serial No.: 09/598,890

REMARKS:

Additional claims have been added by this Second Supplemental Amendment,. These additional claims correspond to claims 17, 26, 30, 31, 32, and various other claims dependent upon claim 32 after being revised so as to recite a combination of a supply element and a laboratory microchip and a method of operating a combination of a supply element and a laboratory microchip, as discussed in the telephone interview of January 7, 2003.

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action upon all of the claims now present in the application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the Examiner is requested to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1337.

Respectfully submitted,

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